

# Maurice Hinchey NEWS

## 26<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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### **HINCHEY APPLAUDS AID PACKAGE PASSED BY HOUSE**

WASHINGTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (NY-26) today commended his colleagues for quickly agreeing on and passing legislation to respond to Tuesday's attacks. As a member of the New York congressional delegation and of the House Appropriations Committee, Hinchey spent most of Thursday working with colleagues on the language of the bill.

"My chief concern was ensuring that sufficient funds be specifically earmarked for disaster recovery and assistance for the people of New York," said Hinchey. "I am very pleased with the bipartisan manner in which all of my colleagues are working together during this most difficult time."

H.R. 2888, the Emergency Disaster Supplemental Appropriations bill, was expected to pass the House of Representatives unanimously. The bill allows the president to spend \$10 billion after consultation with the chairmen and ranking members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, and another \$10 billion after 15 days notice by the Office of Management and Budget, which must submit to Appropriations Committees a plan for the use of those funds.

The remaining \$20 billion in the bill will become available when enacted in a subsequent emergency appropriations bill. The bill stipulates that not less than one-half of the bill's total appropriation of \$40 billion will be for disaster recovery activities and assistance related to the terrorist acts in New York, Virginia and Pennsylvania.

"Congress is providing a significant amount of money with this bill," Hinchey added. "But this is just the first step in the effort to begin the recovery process and to strengthen the nation's security."

After voting in favor of the legislation, Hinchey left the capitol to join his colleagues and other dignitaries for a prayer and memorial service at Washington National Cathedral.